

AT A GLANCE FINDING FROM SURVEY CONDUCTED  
BY CAPT [REDACTED] ON 25 OCT 00

Questions

- #1 What was THREATCON/Threat level at the time entering port?
- #2 Briefs for Duty Section? (asked regarding for those on duty that day)
- #3 What did you know about Yemen?
- #4 (Was there a) LMC announcement regarding higher Threat/THREATCON?
- #5 (Was there a) LMC announcement regarding the possibility of direct action against the ship?
- #6 Why was liberty curtailed in Bahrain? (Any knowledge of) Israel/Palestine and how [the conflict] affects COLE's visit to the AOR?
- #7 Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

	Name	Rank	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7
1	[REDACTED]	STGCM	??	NA	Y	N	N^	Y	Y*
2	[REDACTED]	STG1	??	NA	Y	N	N	N	Y*
3	[REDACTED]	OS2	??	NA	N	N	N	Y	Y*
4	[REDACTED]	GM3	??	NA	N	N	Y%	Y	N
5	[REDACTED]	TM1	??	N	Y	N	N	N	Y*
6	[REDACTED]	OS2	??	N	N	N	N	Y	Y*
7	[REDACTED]	FCC	B?	N	Y	N	N	N	Y
8	[REDACTED]	IT2	??	N	N	N	N	N	N
9	[REDACTED]	MA1	??	NA	Y	N	Y	Y	Y*
10	[REDACTED]	SA	??	N	N	?	?	NA	N
11	[REDACTED]	STG3	A?	N	N	N	N	Y	N
12	[REDACTED]	ENS	B?	NA	Y	N	N	Y	Y*
13	[REDACTED]	LTJG	B?	NA	Y	N	N	Y	Y*
14	[REDACTED]	STGSA	??	N	N	N	N	N	N
15	[REDACTED]	FC2	B?	NA	Y	N	N	N	Y*
16	[REDACTED]	BM1	??	N	Y	N	N	Y	N
17	[REDACTED]	IC3	??	NA	Y	N	N	N	N
18	[REDACTED]	SK1	C?	N	N	N	N	N	N
19	[REDACTED]	ETCS	?H	NA	N	N	N	Y	Y
20	[REDACTED]	OS1	??	NA	N	N	N	N	Y*

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	Name	Rank	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7
21		PN3	??	N	Y	N	N	N	N
22		OS2	BL	NA	Y	N	N	Y	Y^
23		LTJG	B?	NA	N	Y	N	Y	Y
24		LTJG	C?	N	Y	N	N^	Y	Y
25		IT1	B?	N	N	N	N	N	N
26		OS2	??	N	Y@	N	N	N	Y*
27		LTJG	B?	NA	Y	Y	N	Y	Y*
28		FC3	??	NA	Y#	N	N	N	Y*
29		TM3	A?	N	N	N	N	Y	N
30		YN2	??	N	N	?	N	?	N
31		SN	??	N	Y	N	N	N	N
32		ENS	B?	NA	Y	?	N	Y	Y*
33		ENS	??	NA	N	N	N	Y	Y*
34		FCC	BH	NA	Y	N	N	N	Y*
35		ISC	A?	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y*

#1 A-Alpha B-Bravo C-Charlie

L-Low H-High

#3 At least knew there was a BSF

#6 At least knew liberty would be curtailed

? Not sure

\* Yes, attended but nothing on YEMEN other than BSF

# HMC held hostage last time when he was there (circa 1986)

@ Some terrorist threat, but not serious

% Thought it was strange they had so much security

^ From when in Adriatic up to two months prior, but nothing more recent

#### SYNOPSIS:

11.8% of the crew onboard at time of entering port was surveyed on events prior to the explosion on 12 OCT 00.

7 Officers,

5 E-7 and above

14 E-5 and E-6

*A* 9 E-4 and below

35 CREW MEMBERS SURVEYED

296 CREW MEMBERS ONBOARD PER LOGREQ (ENCL(LOGREQ))

Encl (82)

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Only one person (FCC [REDACTED], FP Team member) knew the THREATCON and Threat Level (under 5-pt system). Two others on the FP Team (MA1 [REDACTED] ISC [REDACTED]) knew neither THREATCON nor Threat Level.

Only 10 personnel (including FCC [REDACTED]) knew the THREATCON.

12 personnel in the inport duty section on 12 October 2000 specifically DID NOT recall briefs being done in duty section. (ENCL (WATCHBILL))

20 total personnel knew they were at least refueling in Yemen. Five officers knew nothing other than it was for refueling; one officer (LTJG [REDACTED]) knew some of Yemen's history in addition to refueling. Seven of 13 enlisted knew at least one specific thing about Yemen other than it being just a refueling stop.

Of all 35 personnel, only two (both officers) recalled IMC announcements about the higher threat affecting liberty.

Only 2 of 35 personnel associated past briefs or current operations with possibility of a direct action against the ship.

18 personnel marked knowledge of how the Israeli/Palestinian conflict affected them, chiefly with regard to liberty and pulling into Bahrain.

17 of 22 personnel who had attended OPS/INTEL briefs do not recall anything about Yemen being disseminated. 5 of the 17 are officers.

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: STORM

WATCH: N/A

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port *ALPHA or Bravo, Probably "B" with the 2 TOPSIDE Watched*
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section? *This was our 1st stop since the CO took me out of the Duty Section*
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen *See Below*
- IMC announcements:**
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher *No*
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship *No, 2 aunts earlier talk of Bas Lower Threat*
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR *Yes. No Liberty. But a High alert for Americans. No mention on Yemen in this*
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? *Yes. No Brief on Yemen to my knowledge*

3. Personally I knew that it had not been a very friendly country. Border skirmishes w/ the <sup>Saudi</sup> ARABIANs in past years. This was the first time I had heard of a US ship Refueling there, so I assumed tensions had eased w/ this country

[REDACTED] STORM

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: STZ

WATCH: [REDACTED]

☒ UNK

1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port

☒ N/A

2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐

3) What did you know about Yemen? *NOT much. Just a Refueling Point.*

**IMC announcements:**

☐

4) Threat/THREATCON higher *NO*

☐

5) Possibility of direct action against the ship *NO*

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐

6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR *NO. DID NOT HEAR ANY ADDITIONAL INFO. ON YEMEN*

☐

7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? *YES*

*THE LAST BRIEF OCCURED THE DAY BEFORE WE STOPPED IN YEMEN. THE EMPHASIS WAS ON MID BOARDING IN THE GULF. WEAPONS OFFICER STATED HE RECEIVED E-MAIL FROM A FRIEND AND THAT THERE WERE NO REAL THREATS IN THE AREA. (GULF)*

*THERE WAS NO INFORMATION BRIEFED ON YEMEN.*

[REDACTED]

STG1

NAME: 

RANK: 05<sup>2</sup>/E-5

WATCH: 0304  
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☒ **B** 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port  
*WAS OUT LATER*

☒ **N/A** 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☒ **NOTHING** 3) What did you know about Yemen **NOTHING**

**IMC announcements:**

☒ **NO** 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☒ **NO** 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to  
*I HAD HEARD the AOR "Rumor" that the clubs in BAHRAIN WERE GONNA BE OFF limits, AND WAS BRIEFED ON GULF AOR.*

☒ **YES** 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

*NEVER Discussed Yemen. THERE WAS A BRIEF SCHEDULED FOR 0900 ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> OF OCT, BUT IT WAS POSTPONED UNTIL 1300.*



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NAME:

RANK:

GM3

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☒ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port

☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ no 3) What did you know about Yemen not much at all.

IMC announcements:

☐ no 4) Threat/THREATCON higher was not aware of anything

☒ yes 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
*I issued many weapons to powers*

☒ yes 6) Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain *thought it was strange that we had so much security*  
Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

☐ No 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

[REDACTED]

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: TM'/E-6

WATCH NO. 10  
UNCLASSIFIED

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port UNKNOWN AT THE TIME, BUT LATER FOUND OUT IT WAS B
- ☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section - NONE
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen - WE WERE GOING THERE TO REFUEL & IT WAS KNOWN FOR TERRORISM
- IMC announcements:
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher - NONE
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship - NONE
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR NONE
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? YES

NOTHING ON YEMEN

[REDACTED]

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: OSZ

12/16  
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- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port? I KNOW IT WAS A INCREASED THREAT CONN, DUE TO LIBERTY CURTAILED IN BAHRAIN.
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
NOTHING, NOT, BOTTOM OF SIAT PIRATE, IMC announcements:
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher  
I DO NOT REMEMBER ANY IMC ANNOUNCEMENT
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
I WAS NEW US WERE STANDING UP ARMED ROYING  
Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain WATCHES.
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR I WAS BRIEFED THAT OUR LIBERTY WAS GOING TO BE SECURED AT 2200, DUE TO INCREASED
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on THREAT C their minutes? I DO NOT REMEMBER YEMEN BEING DISCUSSED.

[REDACTED]

OSZ 124 OCTOBER

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK:

FCC(SW)

WATCH:

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☒ Below 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port

☒ Below NO 2) Briefs for Duty Section -

☒ Below 3) What did you know about Yemen

**IMC announcements:**

☒ NO 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☒ NO 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☒ NO 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

☒ Yes. 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

1. I believe we were in THREATCON B. I UNDERSTOOD THAT YEMEN WAS A DANGEROUS PLACE AS FAR AS TERRORISM AND ITS POLITICAL HISTORY. I DID NOT KNOW THAT WE WERE IN AN INCREASED THREAT CONDITION. I ASSUMED BASED OFF OF MY PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE THAT THERE COULD BE AN INCREASED THREAT.

2. I WAS ON DUTY BUT ~~ATTEND~~ DID NOT ATTEND MUSTER. DUE TO PARTICIPATION IN A TOMAHAWK EXERCISE IN CIC.

3. I KNEW FROM NEWS, POLITICAL REPORTS AND HISTORY THAT YEMEN WAS AN UNSTABLE COUNTRY THAT IT WAS ONCE DIVIDED AND PART WAS COMMUNIST. I KNEW THAT ADEN WAS THE "BLACKMARKET" FOR TERRORISTS AND THAT OSAMA BIN LADEN WAS TIED TO YEMEN. I ALSO KNEW OTHER GROUPS WERE TIED TO YEMEN AND POSSIBLY RECEIVED AID FROM YEMEN.

4. Yemen was never discussed OTHER THAN A BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL.

[REDACTED] FCC(SW) ZS OGTU

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: IT2

WATCH

12 ON 120

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port I Believe IT was "BRAVO" NO I did NOT KNOW The LVL
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section - NO
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen NOTHING
- IMC announcements:**
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher - NO
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship - NO
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR - NO
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? NO / NO

[REDACTED]

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: MA'(Sw)

WATCH

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☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port I wasn't sure what the threatCon was in Yemen.

☒ N/A 2) Briefs for Duty Section I was not in the duty section

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen

**IMC announcements:**

☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher There were general announcements about the threat in the area but not specific to Yemen

☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship This info was put out at a OPS/Intel brief about 2 months ago. why liberty curtailed in Bahrain

☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR We knew liberty would be curtailed and why

☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? Yes, I attended all the briefs when not on watch. Nothing specific was mentioned about Yemen, except the BSF.

3). Yemen, I know Yemen was a high Threat area from briefs and training related to force protection. I was really uneasy about pulling into Yemen with the information I had.

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: E-2

WATCH: [REDACTED]

☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port  
NOT Know

☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section  
NO

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
nothing

**IMC announcements:**

☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher  
not know

☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
not know

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR  
N/A

☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?  
N/A NO

[REDACTED]

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: EWS

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☒ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port *Did not know Threat Level*

☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
*- It was our refueling stop on the way to the Gulf*

IMC announcements:

☒ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☒ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐ 6) *No IMC* Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR I received info from my DH saying that the ship's personnel were restricted to the base of liberty *expired at 0000 due to the conflict between Israel & Palestine*

☒ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

*The OPS/INTEL briefs discussed the situation between Israel & Palestine. The brief before the day before also include a DAO brief where the concern focused on how shallow of a harbor we were pulling into. Nothing in the briefs specifically discussed Yemen*

[REDACTED]  
EWS USAR  
[REDACTED]

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: LTJG /Avo

WATCH

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☒ B 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port  
Did not know threat level

☒ N/A 2) Briefs for Duty Section Not on duty the day of the incident

☒ Yes 3) What did you know about Yemen  
brief stop for fuel / other ships have been there before

IMC announcements:

☒ NO 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☒ NO 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

<sup>KS</sup> Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain

- ☒ Yes 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR  
- Actions between Israel/Palestine increased  
- COLE liberty was going to be restricted to on base w/ a 2200 curfew - COLE mission still going to be MIO
- ☒ Yes 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?  
- OPS/INTEL Brief consisted of daily merchant activity  
- OPS/INTEL Brief consisted of threats from surrounding countries i.e. weapons capabilities and ship locations  
- No discussion about Yemen specifically

[REDACTED]

LTJG USNR

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: ST6SA

WATCH: [REDACTED]

☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port *UNKNOWN*

☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section *NONE*

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen *NOTHING*

**IMC announcements:**

☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher *NOTHING HEARD*

☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship *NOTHING HEARD*

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR *DID NOT KNOW THAT LIBERTY WAS CURTAILED IN BAHRAIN. DID KNOW THAT WE WE'RE NOT GOING TO GET LIBERTY IN YEMEN, NO KNOWLEDGE OF ISRAEL/PALESTINE RELATIONS.*

☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? *NO*



NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: FC<sup>2</sup>(SW)/E-5

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- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port to my KNOWLEDGE WE WERE AT THREATCON BRAVO
- ☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section  
- NOT ON DUTY
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YEMEN except that WE WERE REFUELING THERE
- ☒ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher  
DID NOT HEAR ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ☒ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
DID NOT HEAR ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR I KNEW SOME FIGHTING WAS GOING ON BETWEEN THEM BUT THAT IS ALL.
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL Briefs or briefed on their minutes? YES. BUT THE ONLY'S I WENT TO HAD NOTHING ON YEMEN. I DID NOT ATTEND ALL OF THEM. YEMEN WAS NOT DISCUSSED.

[REDACTED] FC<sup>2</sup>(SW) 25 OCT 00

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: BM'(Sw) E6

WATCH

NONE

☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port I DO NOT KNOW

☒ NO ☒ YES ☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
PULLING IN FOR FUEL

IMC announcements:

☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher: NONE, THAT I REMEMBER

☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship: NONE, THAT I REMEMBER

Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain

☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? No

6\* I remember hearing about the Israel/Palestines conflicting - if we were pulling into Bahrain it would be a working port.

[REDACTED] BM'(Sw)

25 Oct 00

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: *IC<sup>3</sup>*

UNCLAS

☐ *NO* 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port

☐ *N/A* 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen *BRIEF FUEL STOP*

**IMC announcements:**

☐ *NO* 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☐ *NO* 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐ *NO* 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

☐ *NO* 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

[REDACTED]

UNCLAS

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: E-6 SK'

UNCLASSIFIED

☒ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port I WOULD ASSUME C = DUE TO INITIAL PERSIAN GULF ALWAYS CRISIS AND SUITED OUT WITH BATTLE GEAR.

☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
ALL I KNOW IS THAT IT'S NEAR OR CLOSE AFFILIATED TO IAAR  
IMC announcements:

☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain

☒ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

[REDACTED]

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: ETC(SW)

WATCH: 1200/1000

☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port? I don't know, I believe it was B. Threatcon

☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen - I did know that the threat level was considered "high".

**IMC announcements:**

☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher No IMC Announcements

☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship No IMC Announcements

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR I wasn't aware like I was aware that liberty in Bahrain was curtailed + read the message

☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

→ When it came in approximately 2-3 days prior to BSF in Yemen

# 7 I had attended most OPS/Intel Briefs due to my watchstation being in Combat (CSC).  
 shows We typically briefed missile threats as part of the SPY-1B Brief + there was some discussion about briefing a Yemen missile threat. During one Brief I do recall that someone briefed Yemen as having a "High" threat level + I was a bit surprised we were stopping there for fuel. I recall that ~~there~~ this was mentioned early on - maybe even prior to entering the Red Sea. I also think that I thought there was a difference between S+N Yemen + assumed that ~~where~~ our fuel stop was going to be a "relatively safe" place to be.

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: E-6/OS'(SW)

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- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port *DON'T KNOW / Just the Increase in weapon status as per OPORD 1008*
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section *NO DUTY*
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen *Nothing*
- IMC announcements: NG.*
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher *NO*
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship *NO*
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain Yes, Possible attacks w Gulf AOR only*
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR *NO*
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? *Yes, However NO Yemen*

[REDACTED] OS'(SW)

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NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: AN3 (SW)

WATCH

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☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port

DON'T KNOW

☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section

NO

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen

pulling in to re-fuel only  
IMC announcements:

☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☐ 5) NO announcements that I remember  
Possibility of direct action against the ship

NO

Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain

☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

DON'T KNOW

☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

NO

[REDACTED] FAB (SW)

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: PO2/E-5/OS2

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- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port? THREATCON B WAS MADE KNOWN VIA OPS/INTEL BRIEF. THREAT LEVEL WAS LOW.
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section DID NOT HAVE DUTY ~~FOR~~ WITH REGULAR DUTY SECTION DUE TO CHART ASSIGNMENTS.
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen? I KNEW WE WERE TRYING TO MAINTAIN POLITICAL RELATIONS/KEEP STABILITY (POLITICALLY/SOCIALLY) WITH YEMEN. USS COLE'S PURPOSE WAS TO REFUEL. I ALSO KNEW YEMEN HARBORED IMC announcements: TERRORISTS, ESPECIALLY DIVERS.
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher  
I NEVER HEARD THREAT LEVEL / THREATCON OVER LMC.
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
I NEVER HEARD ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT DIRECT ACTION AGAINST THE SHIP OVER THE LMC.  
Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR. IT WAS PASSED DOWN THAT LIBERTY IN BAHRAIN WOULD BE LIMITED TO OBVIOUSLY NICE RESTAURANTS, BARS, CLUBS WOULD BE OFF LIMITS.
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

YES. IN REGARDS TO YEMEN, THE SHIP PLANNED ON GETTING IN AND OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. GENERALLY SPEAKING, WE WERE BRIEFED THAT BIN LADEN WAS GOING TO MAKE A STATEMENT THAT HE WAS GOING TO HAVE TWO SUICIDE BOMBERS, IN A BOAT, BOMB A USS IN OR AROUND THE PERSIAN GULF, IN THE YEAR 2000,

A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE BLAST ON OCT. 12, 2000, THE X.O. MADE AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE LMC STATING WE SHOULD BE COMPLETED WITH FUELING AND EXPECTING TO GET UNDERWAY BY 1330 AND IF POSSIBLE WE WOULD GET UNDERWAY SOONER.

[REDACTED] USN

UNCLASSIFIED



NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: LTJG

WATCH  
UNCLASSIFIED

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port *Threatcon BRAVO, Threat level unknown.*
- ☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen *YEMAN IS A THREAT AREA BUT THE WHOLE THEATER WAS STEPPING UP.*
- IMC announcements:

- ☒ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher  
*I remember some announcement concerning THREATCON because it concerned the whole theater and our Liberty!*
- ☒ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

- ☒ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

- ☒ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? *THE threats were covered in the OPS Intel briefs. I specifically remember an intel brief in which the C.O. talked about an American ship being targeted.*

*The C.O. always addressed the Threatcon and Threat levels in these briefs.*

[REDACTED]  
LTJG, SC, USNR

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: <sup>AP</sup> LTJG [REDACTED]

RANK: LTJG

WYICOR 110405  
THREATCON

THREATCON ☒ C

1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port

☒ DK

2) Briefs for Duty Section (NOT ON DUTY)

☐

3) What did you know about Yemen I knew Yemen had a civil war which joined North and South Yemen 7-10 years ago and that Yemen was the #1 world threat for swimmer attacks.  
IMC announcements:

☒ NO

4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☒ NO

5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain

☒ YES

6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

☒ YES

7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

5) \* While in the Aoradic we received a threat brief from ISC(SW) [REDACTED] that U.S.G.L. had promised an attack against a US ship in the CGF or CSF AOR. The brief stated the ship would be steaming independently and the attack would most likely be with a kamikaze boat.

6) This info was briefed at the morning OPS intel brief. I distinctly remember this because I told my division how exciting Bahrain was to visit from my previous deployment. I then had to tell them that otherwise liberty would be denied.

[REDACTED] LTJG, USN

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

IT<sup>4</sup>

RANK: E-6

WATCH: 031212Z

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port ~~Threat~~<sup>du</sup> threatun, Bravo/didnt meet the threat level
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section No.
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen nothing.
- IMC announcements:**
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher didnt hear no IMC announcement
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship, heard nothing about that.
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR. heard nothing about that
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? None.
- [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME [REDACTED]

RANK: E-5 DS<sup>2</sup>

WATCH: 1400-1800  
(CIC)

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port B- WAS TOLD SEVERAL DAYS AFTER EXPLOSION
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section  
NONE
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
MAYBE SOME TERRORIST THREAT BUT NOT TOO SERIOUS.  
IMC announcements:
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher  
NONE
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
NONE
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR NOT TOO MUCH, JUST A LITTLE INFO AT OPS/INTEL BRIEF BUT NOT ON VISIT TO AOR
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? ATTENDED OPS/INTEL BRIEFS, NOTHING ON YEMEN OR POSSIBLE TERRORIST ACTIVITY.

[REDACTED]  
DS<sup>2</sup>

REG ASSIGNED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: LTJG

WATCH 1000-1200  
1200-1400  
1400-1600  
1600-1800  
1800-2000  
2000-2200  
2200-2400

- ☒ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section - DID NOT ATTEND, IF NEEDED.
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen NOT MUCH. STOPPING BRIEFLY FOR FUEL.  
A STOP FOR MERCHANT VESSELS. SMALL NAVY.
- IMC announcements:**
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher - ANNOUNCEMENT ENTERING CSF AOR  
BOSNIA WAS PRACTICE (TRAINING) NOW ENTERING  
HIGHER THREAT. LIBERTY SECURED IN GULF  
SOONER, BARS.
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
NO NONE ACTIONS... POSSIBILITY ALWAYS EXISTS. BUDDY SYSTEM IN EFFECT WHILE IN AOR.
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR - THINGS HEATING UP AS WE BEGAN TRANSITING GULF.  
SPY RABBIT UP WHILE TRANSITING CANAL.
- ☒ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?  
ATTENDED OPS/INTEL BRIEFS IF NOT ON WATCH.  
DO NOT RECALL YEMEN TOPICS.

[REDACTED] LTJG

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: FC3

WATCH: [REDACTED]

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port I DIDN'T KNOW THEN.
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section N/A
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
OUR HMC, LAST TIME HE WAS HERE, HE WAS HELD HOSTAGE. (1986 OR THERE AROUND)
- 1MC announcements:**
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher NOTHING HEARD
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
NOTHING HEARD
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR  
NO
- ☐ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?  
YES, THEY DISCUSSED YEMEN VERY BRIEFLY. ONLY ABOUT RE-FUELING

[REDACTED] FC3

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: STG<sup>3</sup>

UNCLASSIFIED

☒ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port

☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
NOTHING

**IMC announcements:**

☒ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☒ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR  
PLACES TO GO IE. RATS & HOTELS, LIBERTY

☒ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

[REDACTED] STG<sup>3</sup>

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: TM<sup>3</sup>(U)

WATCH: EAST COAST ROVER

- ☒ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port
- ☒ 2) Briefs for Duty Section  
BECAUSE I HAD THE FIRST WATCH AND ASSUMED IT RIGHT AFTER SEA ANCHOR
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen  
NOTHING  
IMC announcements:
- ☒ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher
- ☒ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship  
TO CAME ON IMC AND SAID WE WERE GOING TO REFUEL AS FAST AS WE CAN AND GET UNDERWAY  
Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR  
I HEARD BARS WERE OUT LIMITS AND RESTAURANTS WERE WITHIN LIMITS.
- ☒ 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

[REDACTED] TM<sup>3</sup>(U)



NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: YN2(SW)

WATCH: UNCLASSIFIED

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port *I don't know*
- ☒ NO 2) Briefs for Duty Section
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen *Nothing*
- IMC announcements:**
- ☐ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher *I can't remember*
- ☐ 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship *NO*
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**
- ☐ 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR *Don't know*
- ☒ NO 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?
- [REDACTED]

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: S21/E3

WATCH: [REDACTED]

- 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port I DON'T KNOW
- 2) Briefs for Duty Section NO
- 3) What did you know about Yemen NOTHING EXCEPT IT WAS A PLACE TO GET FUEL
- IMC announcements:
- 4) Threat/THREATCON higher NO
- 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship NO
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain
- 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR I WAS TOLD IN BAHRAIN THAT IT MIGHT BE A HIGH THREAT LEVEL.
- 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? NO

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: ENS

*- DUTY REMINDER*

UNCLASSIFIED

☒ B 1) What was THREATCON (Threat Level) at the time entering port

☒ N/A 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen

*BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL*

*1 REMEMBER*  
**IMC announcements:**

☒ 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☒ NO 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☒ YES 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR

*KNOW LIBERTY CURTAILED BECAUSE OF INCREASED TENSIONS BTWN ISRAELIS + PALESTINIANS*

☒ YES 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes?

*DAILY - DON'T REMEMBER ANY SPECIFICS ON YEMEN*

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: ENS

COMMO

WATCH: NO

UNCLASSIFIED

☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port I DON'T KNOW

☐ N/A 2) Briefs for Duty Section

☐ BSF 3) What did you know about Yemen

**IMC announcements:**

☐ NO 4) Threat/THREATCON higher

☐ NO 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship

**Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**

☐ YES 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR THROUGH THE READING OF MESSAGE TRAFFIC NOT FROM THE IMC

☐ YES 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? NONE DISCUSSED YEMEN

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: FCC(SW)

WATCH: [REDACTED]

ASPECT  
THAT DAY

- 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port **BRAVO/HIGH**
- 2) Briefs for Duty Section **NOT ON DUTY**
- 3) What did you know about Yemen **KNOW WE WERE COMING HERE FOR FUEL STOP. WASN'T TOO HAPPY ABOUT IT. I HAD HEARD IMC announcements:**
- 4) Threat/THREATCON higher **NONE**
- 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship **NONE**
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain**
- 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR **HADN'T HEARD**
- 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? **YES - BUT I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT YEMEN IN ANY OF THE BRIEFS I ATTENDED. I WASN'T ABLE TO ATTEND ALL OPS/INTEL BRIEFS DUE TO WATCH STANDING SCHEDULE.**

3 CONT. — THAT YEMEN POSSIBLY WAS A SAFE HAVEN FOR TERRORISTS. I HAD ALSO READ THAT OSAMA BIN LADEN WAS ORIGINALLY FROM YEMEN.

[REDACTED] FCC(SW)

UNCLASSIFIED

NAME: [REDACTED]

RANK: ISC

WATCH: ~~Not on Watch~~  
Duty

- ☐ 1) What was THREATCON/Threat Level at the time entering port Threatcon was A, but was changed prior to inchopping into AOR; was not aware of change.
- ☐ 2) Briefs for Duty Section  
No briefs were held.
- ☐ 3) What did you know about Yemen - Knew it was frequented by terrorists; other ships had stopped here for fuel; did not understand why we were pulling in here especially with IMC announcements.
- ☒ No 4) Threat/THREATCON higher
- ☒ No 5) Possibility of direct action against the ship
- Why liberty curtailed in Bahrain
- ☒ Yes 6) Israel/Palestine & how it affects COLE's visit to the AOR
- ☒ Yes 7) Did you ever attend any OPS/INTEL briefs or briefed on their minutes? Can't recall any geo-political highlights being briefed about Yemen.

ISC [REDACTED]